

In the claims:

Please cancel claim 8.

- C ✓ 5. [amended] ^{an isolated} A polynucleotide [sequence] encoding connective tissue growth factor (CTGF) polypeptide [or a functional fragment thereof], wherein CTGF is characterized by:
a) mitogenic and chemotactic activity for connective tissue cells;
b) a molecular weight of approximately 36 kD by non-reducing SDS-PAGE and approximately 38 kD by reducing SDS-PAGE;
c) binding to a PDGF receptor; and
d) existing as a monomer.

- B² ✓ 9. [amended] A biologically functional expression vector[s] containing the [DNA sequence of claim 6] polynucleotide of claim 5.

In claim 11, please delete the term "DNA" before "vector".

Please add the following new claims:

- B³ ✓ 9. The polynucleotide of claim 5, wherein the polynucleotide encodes the CTGF of SEQ ID NO:2.

- ✓ 10. The polynucleotide of claim 5 as set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

In the Specification:

On page 2, lines 23 and 24 and page 5, line 23 and 26, please delete the underlining from the words "mitogenic", chemotactic, "degenerate" and "functionally unchanged", respectively.

Please delete the current title and substitute therefor:

--Polynucleotides Encoding Connective Tissue Growth Factor--